

# GT-1050A 2 GHz to 50 GHz Microwave Power Amplifier



Operation Manual



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## Regulatory Compliance Information

This product complies with the essential requirements of the following applicable European Directives, and carries the CE mark accordingly.

89/336/EEC and 73/23/EEC

EN61010-1 (1993)

EN61326-1 (1997)

EMC Directive and Low Voltage Directive

Electrical Safety

EMC – Emissions and Immunity

**Manufacturer's Name:**

Giga-tronics, Incorporated

**Manufacturer's Address**

4650 Norris Canyon Road

San Ramon, California 94583

U.S.A.

**Type of Equipment:**

Microwave Power Amplifier

**Model Series Number**

GT-1050A

**Model Numbers:**

Not applicable

**Declaration of Conformity on file. Contact Giga-tronics at the following;**

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# Chapter 1 Safety and Manual Conventions

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This manual contains conventions regarding safety and equipment usage as described below.

## 1.1 Personal Safety Alert



**WARNING:** Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

## 1.2 Equipment Safety Alert



**CAUTION:** Indicates a situation which can damage or adversely affect the GT-1050A or associated equipment.

## 1.3 Notes

Notes are denoted and used as follows:

**NOTE:** Highlights or amplifies an essential operating or maintenance procedure, practice, condition or statement.

Review this manual to become familiar with the instrument safety markings and instructions before operation.

## 1.4 Electrical Safety Precautions

- Any servicing instructions are for use by service-trained personnel only. To avoid personal injury, do not perform any service unless you are qualified to do so.
- For continued protection against fire hazard, replace the AC line fuse only with a fuse of the same current rating and type. Do not use repaired fuses or short circuited fuse holders.

## 1.5 Important Operating Instructions

- The GT-1050A Amplifier does not include an enable/disable feature to activate and deactivate the amplifier. When connecting or disconnecting the output of the amplifier, ensure that the power switch on the rear of the amplifier is in the OFF position.
- When connecting the amplifier to a transmitting device, observe all safety procedures to ensure that the amplifier isn't interfering with other systems in the area. High power microwaves can adversely affect power sensitive instruments in the area of transmission.
- Exercise precautions to avoid exposure to radiated microwave energy at all times.



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## Chapter 2 Introduction

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### 2.1 Overview

The Giga-tronics GT-1050A Microwave Power Amplifiers are high-performance solid-state microwave power amplifiers. The Giga-tronics GT-1050A provide excellent pulse fidelity, low intermodulation distortion, high linearity and superior gain flatness without the warm-up time, drift or aging issues of traveling wave tube amplifiers (TWTA). They feature low noise figure, low harmonics and spurious content, and are highly tolerant to load mismatch.

#### **GT-1050A:**

- Frequency Range: 2 GHz to 50 GHz.
- 2.4 mm (f) input and output connectors.

#### **2.1.1 Features and Benefits of the GT-1050A Microwave Power Amplifier**

- 25 dB nominal gain over the 2 GHz to 50 GHz frequency range.
- Ideal for testing in R&D labs, ATE systems, wireless communications applications and defense EW systems.
- Small size allows easily placing the amplifier close to the device under test.

## 2.2 Controls, Indicators, and Connectors

The following pages describe all of the features shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.



Figure 1: GT-1050A Front Panel

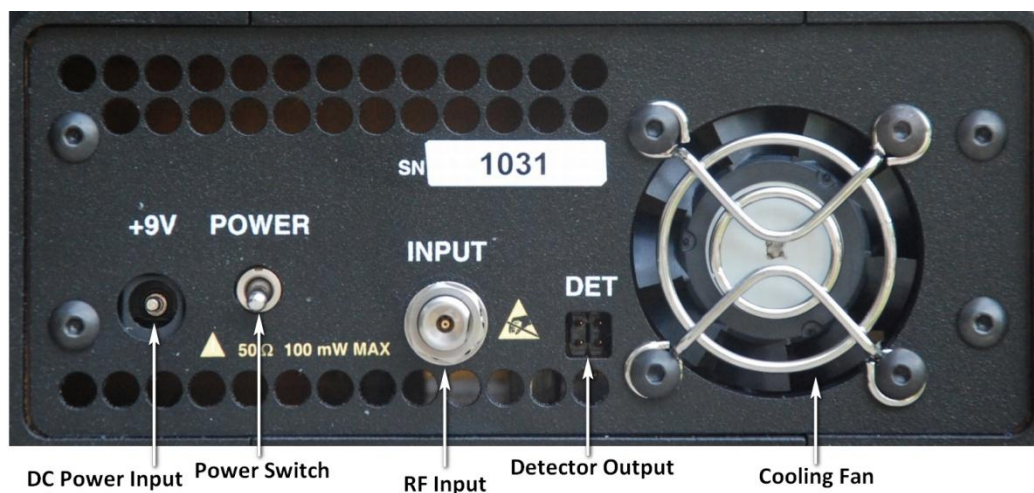



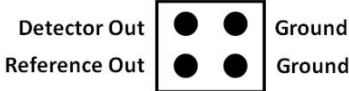
Figure 2: GT-1050A Rear Panel

The tables below describe the functions of the features shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2 on the previous page.

**Table 1: GT-1050A Front Panel Controls, Indicators, and Connections**

GT-1050A Front Panel Controls, Indicators, and Connections	
Name	Function
Power on LED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extinguished when DC power is not applied</li> <li>Illuminated green when DC power is applied</li> </ul>
OUTPUT (RF output connector)	2.92 mm (f) to 2.4 mm (m) adapter available
	GT-1050A: 2.4 mm (f)

**Table 2: GT-1050A Rear Panel Controls, Indicators, and Connections**

GT-1050A Rear Panel Controls, Indicators, and Connections	
Name	Function
+9V	DC power input from the AC/DC switching adapter. See Figure below.  <b>Figure 3: DC Power Input</b>
Power On/Off switch	Switches the unit on and off.
INPUT (RF input connector)	2.92 mm (f) to 2.4 mm (m) adapter available (contact factory)
	GT-1050A: 2.4 mm (f)
DET	Power output detector output <b>NOTE:</b> The Detector output provides a differential DC output voltage proportional to the amplifier output power level and can be used directly as an indication of the presence of output power, or can be used for power measurement with the appropriate calibration. The detector output is frequency dependant, and must be calibrated for each test frequency and power level. In an ATE environment, calibration of the detector is not complicated and may be as simple as measuring the differential output voltage at each test frequency and power level. A look-up table or curve-fit can then be used to provide a measure of power delivered.  <b>Figure 4: DET Connector</b>
Fan	Cooling fan for unit

## 2.3 Receiving and Inspection

Follow the procedure in Table 3 for receiving and inspecting the GT-1050A.

**Table 3: Receiving and Inspection of the GT-1050A**

<b>Receiving and Inspection of the GT-1050A</b>	
<b>Step</b>	<b>Action</b>
1.	<p>Before opening the shipping container, inspect it for any signs of damage.</p> <p><b>If THERE IS evidence of damage;</b> record the location and extent of the damage and contact the shipper immediately to report the damage.</p> <p><b>If there is NO EVIDENCE of damage;</b> continue to the next step.</p>
2.	<p>Open the shipping container and inspect the contents for evidence of damage. The contents should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GT-1050A Microwave Power Amplifier</li> <li>• Operation Manual</li> <li>• AC line cord</li> <li>• AC/DC switching adapter</li> </ul> <p>If any of the contents are damaged or missing, contact Giga-tronics immediately. Refer to the Contact Information on the inside of the front cover of this manual.</p>
<b>End of procedure</b>	

## 2.4 Prepare the GT-1050A for Use

### 2.4.1 Cooling

The GT-1050A has an internal cooling fan. The air intake is located on the rear panel of the instrument. When using the GT-1050A, ensure there are no obstructions to the flow of air into or out of the instrument.

### 2.4.2 AC Power Requirements

**AC Power Requirements:** See Table 10 on page 12

## 2.5 Shipping, Repair, and Calibration

### 2.5.1 Shipping the GT-1050A

If it is necessary to ship the GT-1050A, observe the following:

- Use the best packaging materials available. If possible, reuse the original shipping container.
- If the original shipping container is not available, use a strong carton (350 lbs./sq. in. bursting strength) or a wooden box.
- Wrap the amplifier in heavy paper or plastic before placing it into the shipping container.
- Completely fill the areas on all sides of the amplifier with packaging material. Take extra precaution to protect the front and rear panels.
- Seal the package with strong tape or metal bands. Mark the outside of the package clearly, and in bold type, as follows:

**FRAGILE — DELICATE INSTRUMENT**

### 2.5.2 Repairs

The Giga-tronics GT-1050A Microwave Power Amplifier is a robust instrument that has been designed and built for years of trouble-free service. However, if you experience problems with the instrument, do the following:

1. Contact your local Giga-tronics sales office, or the factory, and be prepared to provide the model, serial number, and any included options of your amplifier, and a description of the problem. To contact the factory directly, use the following information:

Contacting Giga-tronics Customer Service	
Email	repairs@gigatronics.com
Telephone (within the United States)	800.726.4442
Telephone	925.328.4702
Fax	925.328.4702

2. If it is has been determined that you must ship the GT-1050A to the factory or a service center for repair, you will be issued a **Return Materials Authorization (RMA)** number. Use the RMA number in all correspondence regarding the repair.
3. Pack the GT-1050A for shipment as described in the previous section, and enclose all relevant information regarding the problem.
4. Ship the GT-1050A to the address provided by Giga-tronics Customer Service.

### 2.5.3 Calibration

The GT-1050A Microwave Power Amplifier does not require calibration. There are no adjustments. For more information, contact Giga-tronics.

# Chapter 3 Operation

## 3.1 Operating Safety and Instructions

<b>CAUTION</b>	<b>DO NOT EXCEED AN INPUT LEVEL OF +20 dBm INTO THE GT-1050A. EXCEEDING THIS LEVEL CAN DAMAGE THE GT-1050A MICROWAVE POWER AMPLIFIER.</b>
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 <b>WARNING</b>	<p><b>WHEN ENERGIZED, THE GT-1050A IS CAPABLE OF SUPPLYING POWER THAT CAN CAUSE DAMAGE OR INJURY. TAKE THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS TO ENSURE SAFE SETUP AND OPERATION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verify that all cables, connectors, and equipment connected to the GT-1050A are in good condition.</li> <li>• Do not make connections to equipment while the output of any item of equipment is energized.</li> </ul>
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Table 4: Operate the GT-1050A

Operate the GT-1050A	
Step	Action
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verify that the POWER switch on the rear of the unit is OFF.</li> <li>• Plug the included external power supply into a source of AC power that meets the specifications for power in Table 10 on page 12.</li> <li>• Plug the DC cable from the external power supply into the connector +9 V on the rear of the unit.</li> <li>• Put the POWER switch on the GT-1050A in the ON position.</li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> For best results, let the GT-1050A warm up for one minute after switching the AC power ON.</p>
2.	Verify that the output of the microwave signal source is NOT energized before continuing to the next step.
3.	Connect the equipment to the GT-1050A according to your application. <b>NOTE:</b> Verify all mating connectors are 50 Ohm, and that they are in good condition.
4.	Energize the output of the microwave signal source.
5.	Adjust the output of the microwave signal source until the output from the GT-1050A is at the desired level.
<b>End of Procedure</b>	

## Chapter 4 Performance Verification

This chapter is divided into two sections:

- **Specifications:** this section contains all of the operating specifications that define the performance of the GT-1050A.
- **Performance Verification:** this section contains the test procedure that ensures that the GT-1050A meets the specifications.

### 4.1 Specifications

**NOTE:** Graphs of some of the GT-1050A characteristics are on page 13 and page 14.

Table 5: Frequency Range

Frequency Range	
Model	Specification
GT-1050A	2 GHz to 50 GHz
GT-1051A	10 MHz to 50 GHz

Table 6: Output Power

Output Power	
Parameter	Specification
2 to 10 GHz	+30 dBm (1 Watt) typical, +26 dBm (400 mW) minimum
10 to 30 GHz	+28 dBm (600 mW) typical, +25 dBm (300 mW) minimum
30 to 40 GHz	+27 dBm (500 mW) typical, +23 dBm (200 mW) minimum
40 to 50 GHz	+24 dBm (250 mW) typical, +20 dBm (100 mW) minimum
<b>NOTES:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Output power is specified as minimum saturated power into 50 Ohm load with +5 dBm input, at 23 °C ± 5 °C.</li> <li>• Input power for normal operation should be limited to +20 dBm maximum.</li> </ul>	



Table 7: Gain Flatness

Gain Flatness	
Range	Specifications
2 to 40 GHz	± 5 dB maximum, ± 2.5 dB typical
2 to 50 GHz	± 7 dB maximum, ± 3.5 dB typical
<b>NOTES:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nominal gain is 25 dB.</li> <li>Gain flatness is specified as maximum variation with -5 dBm input and 50 Ohm load.</li> </ul>	

Table 8: Input and Output VSWR

Input and Output VSWR			
Connector	Frequency Range		
	2 to 30 GHz	30 to 40 GHz	40 to 50 GHz
Input, 50 ohms	1.5:1 typical	2.0:1 typical	2.3:1 typical
Output, 50 ohms	2.0:1 typical	2.3:1 typical	2.9:1 typical

Table 9: Additional Specifications

Additional Specifications	
Parameter	Specification
Stability	Unconditionally Stable
Maximum Load VSWR	3:1
Harmonic Distortion*	< -30 dBc typical
Spurious*	< -60 dBc typical
Noise Figure	< 10 dB typical, < 14 dB maximum
* Harmonics measured at +10 dBm output power. Spurious measured at -5 dBm input power level	

Table 10: General Specifications

General Specifications	
Parameter	Specification
Operating Temperature	0 °C to +50 °C
Storage Temperature	-20 °C to +75 °C
Cooling	Forced air
Dimensions	2.75 inches H x 5.0 inches D x 5.5 inches W (70 mm H x 127 mm D x 140 mm W)
Weight	4.5 lbs (2 kg)
RF Connectors	2.4 mm (f)
External Power Supply	
AC line input	100 to 240 VAC, 50 to 60 Hz, 0.7 A, Single Phase
DC output	9.0 V, 2.77 A, 25 W maximum

Table 11: Supplemental Data

Supplemental Data	
Parameter	Specification
Operating Temperature	0 °C to 55 °C
Maximum input power (RF)	+20 dBm
DC power dissipation	9 V/1.5 A
Input connector	2.92 mm (f) to 2.4 mm (m) adapter available
	2.4 mm (f)
Output connector	2.92 mm (f) to 2.4 mm (m) adapter available
	2.4 mm (f)

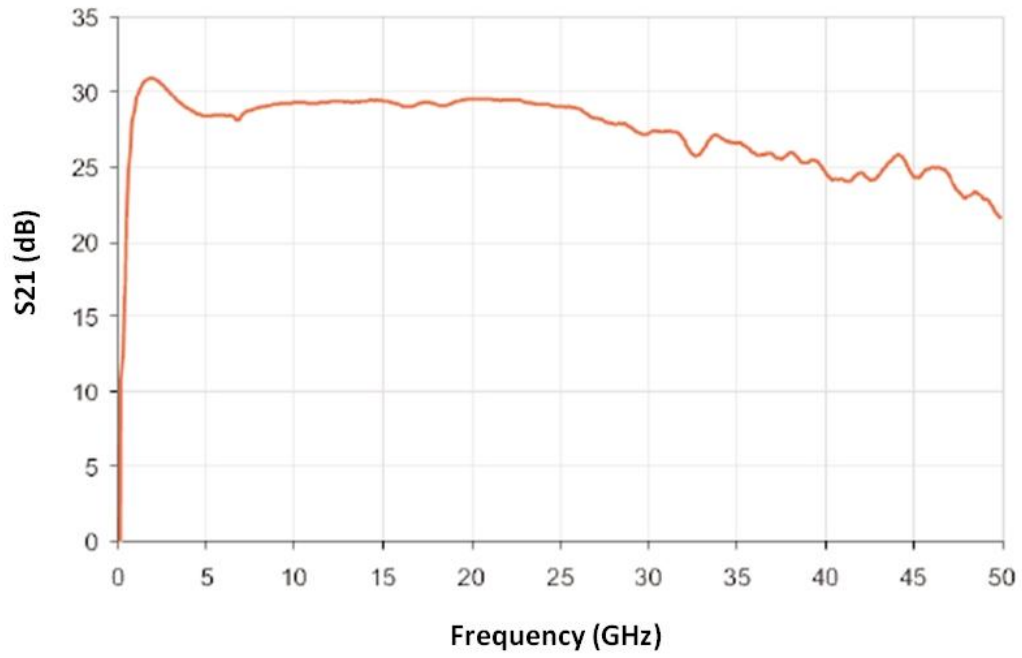


Figure 5: S21 (typical)

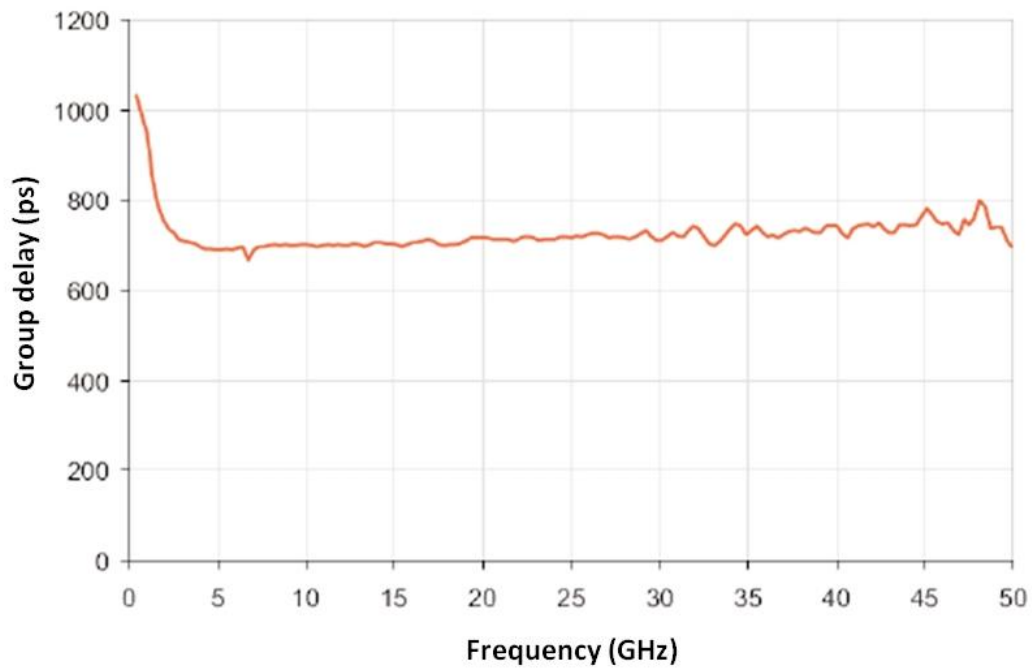


Figure 6: Group Delay (typical)

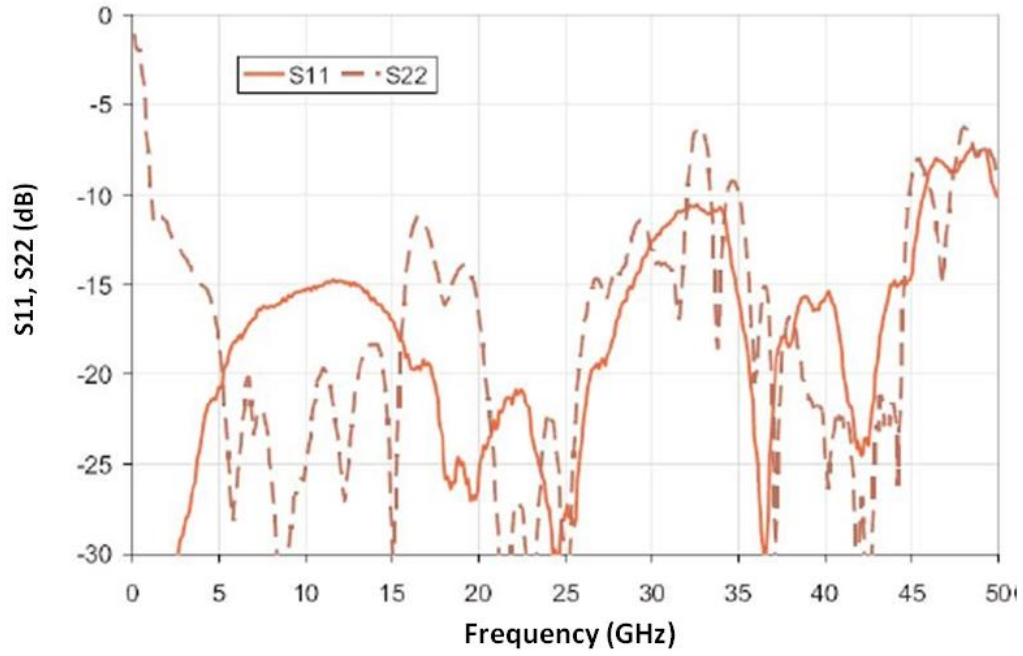


Figure 7: S11, S22 (typical)

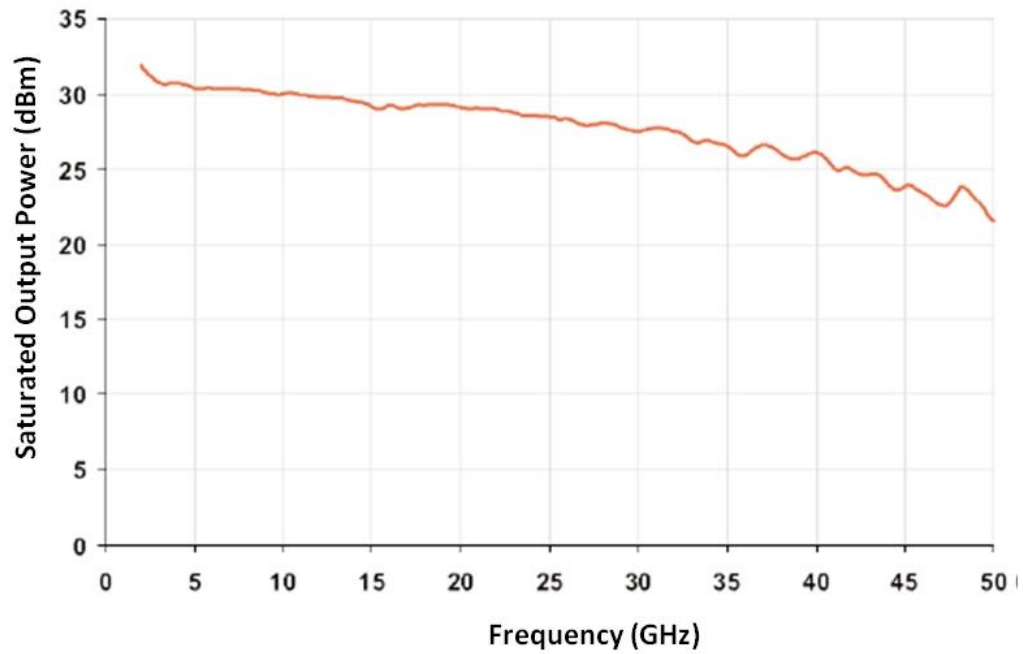


Figure 8: Saturated Output Power (typical)

## 4.2 Performance Verification

This section describes how to test the GT-1050A to verify that it meets Giga-tronics specifications.

The overall operation of the GT-1050A Microwave Power Amplifier is checked using a broadband signal source, power sensor, and a power meter.

The test setup is shown in Figure 9. The procedure is shown in Table 12 and starts on page 16.

### 4.2.1 Equipment and Material

- Signal source: Giga-tronics 2550B 50 GHz Microwave Signal Generator or equivalent
- Power meter: Giga-tronics 8651B or 8652B Power Meter or equivalent
- Power sensor: Giga-tronics 81305A, 50 GHz, 2.4 mm or equivalent
- Attenuator pad: 10 dB, 50 GHz, 2.4 mm Attenuator Pad
- Test cable: 2.4 mm (m), 50 GHz test cable

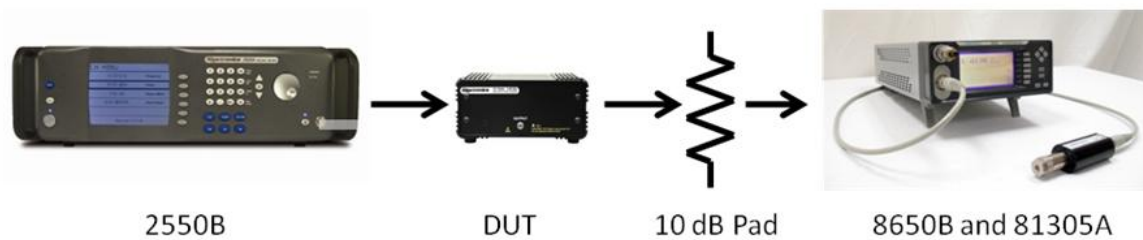


Figure 9: GT-1050A Performance Verification Setup

Note: Connect test cable between 2550B RF Output and GT-1050A DUT RF Input. Connect the 10 dB attenuator pad directly to the GT-1050A DUT RF Output and the 81305A 50 GHz Power Sensor following the 10 dB attenuator pad.

Table 12: GT-1050A Performance Verification Procedure

<b>GT-1050A Performance Verification Procedure</b>	
<b>Step</b>	<b>Action</b>
1.	Connect equipment as shown in Figure 9.
2.	Keep equipment powered off until all connections are made.
3.	Always start with signal generator RF Off.
4.	Turn equipment on (with RF Off) and allow to warm up for 30 minutes.
5.	Set signal generator to the first test frequency and RF power level at -20 dBm.
6.	Set power meter to first test frequency.
7.	Set 10 dB Offset on power meter to compensate for 10 dB attenuator pad.
8.	Turn on signal generator RF output and increase RF power level to +5 dBm.
9.	Measure power output from DUT on power meter and record the value.
10.	Set signal generator to the next test frequency
11.	Set power meter to next test frequency.
12.	Measure power output from DUT on power meter and record the value.
13.	Repeat steps 10 thru 12 for all remaining test frequencies.
14.	Verify measured power exceeds minimum power specification.
<b>End of Procedure</b>	

Table 13: Performance Verification Measurements

Frequency (GHz)	Minimum Power Output (dBm)	Measured Power Output (dBm)	Frequency (GHz)	Min. Power Output (dBm)	Measured Power Output (dBm)
			26	20	
2	23		27	20	
3	23		28	20	
4	23		29	20	
5	23		30	20	
6	23		31	20	
7	23		32	20	
8	23		33	20	
9	23		34	20	
10	23		35	20	
11	23		36	20	
12	23		37	20	
13	23		38	20	
14	23		39	20	
15	23		40	20	
16	23		41	20	
17	23		42	20	
18	23		43	20	
19	23		44	20	
20	23		45	20	
21	23		46	20	
22	23		47	20	
23	23		48	20	
24	23		49	20	
25	23		50	20	
<b>Serial Number</b>					

## Appendix A Options

This section describes the options that are available for the GT-1050A.

**Table 14: GT-1050A Options**

GT-1050A Options	
Option Number	Description
46	Add Rack Mount Kit